



**Sterne Kessler  
Goldstein Fox**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Robert Greene Steere  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Connell  
Robert W. Townsend  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michelle A. Cambria  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Szokol  
Eric K. Stolle  
Michael Q. Line  
John M. Covert  
Robert C. Milling  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Michael V. Menninger  
Justin U. Kim  
Jeffrey T. Hevey  
Elkora L. Elson  
Donald R. Banowitz

Peter A. Jackson  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Mark Fox Evans  
Vincent J. Capuano  
Elizabeth J. Haanes  
Michael D. Spodis  
Kevin W. McCall  
Green J. Perry  
Theodore A. Wood  
Edward W. Yee  
Grant E. Reed  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Tacy L. Muller  
Jon E. Wright  
Lakshmi M. Desantis  
Helene C. Carlson  
Cynthia M. Bouchez  
Timothy A. Doyle  
Gabby L. Longworth

Lori A. Gordon  
Laura A. Vogel  
Sharon A. Carroll  
Anbar F. Bhal  
Michelle K. Holoubek  
Marsha A. Rose  
Scott A. Schaller  
Lei Zhou  
W. Blake Cobbentz  
James J. Roll  
John T. Haran  
Mark W. Rygiel  
Michael R. Maule  
Carla J. Euan Kim  
Doyle A. Siever  
Ulfrike Winkler Jenks  
Paul A. Calvo  
C. Matthew Rozier  
Randall K. Baldwin

Daniel J. Nevil  
Lori M. Brandes  
Jeffrey K. Mills  
Mina Vukobratovic  
Scott M. Woodhouse  
Christian A. Canace  
Richard D. Collier III  
Krisba Hyton-Rodic  
Bonnie Rammerge-Combs  
Alissa K. Sandstrom  
Jonathan M. Strang  
Isaac P. Veenakoon  
Registered Patent Agents  
Karin R. Markowicz  
Matthew J. Crow  
Peter A. Socarras  
Danielle L. Luntin  
Steven C. Oppenheimer

Aaron S. Lukas  
Gaurav Asthana  
Stephanie L. Elmer  
Robert E. Balin  
Salvador M. Betos  
Yasser Mourada

of Counsel  
Edward J. Kessler  
Kenneth C. Bass II  
Marvin C. Guthrie  
Christopher P. West  
David C. Isaacson

\*Admitted only in Maryland  
\*Admitted only in Virginia  
\*Practice limited to federal agencies

January 7, 2009

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:  
(202) 772-8645  
INTERNET ADDRESS:  
JASONE@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Art Unit 2456**

**Attn: Mail Stop RCE**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 10/076,181; Filing Date: February 12, 2002  
For: **System and Method for Providing Distributed Access  
Control to Secured Items**  
Inventors: HILDEBRAND *et al.*  
Our Ref: 2222.5390002

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal;
2. Submission Under 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c) and Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.115; and
3. Online Credit Card Payment Authorization in the amount of \$810.00 to cover Request for Continued Examination (RCE) fee.

The above-listed documents are filed electronically through EFS-Web.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

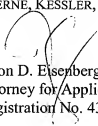
Fee payment is provided through online credit card payment.

Commissioner for Patents  
January 7, 2009  
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Jason D. Eisenberg  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 43,447

JDE/A-S:smn  
Enclosures

923558\_1.DOC